

COMMUNICATION (4.4.3)

Communication (cont.)



The basic issue that needs to be addressed in the Communication section of the standard is

WHAT COMMUNICATION SYSTEM
NEEDS TO BE ESTABLISHED?

Communication (cont.)

Three issues must be addressed:

1. Organization must establish and maintain an internal communication system for the EMS.
 2. Organization must establish a system for responding to external communication with respect to the EMS.
 3. Organization should decide whether to communicate significant environmental aspects to external parties.
-

Communication (cont.)



The internal communication requirement already exists within the standard.

Communication (cont.)



The wording used is the standard with respect to the remaining requirements becomes “grey” .

i.e. “relevant” & “record its decision”

Communication (cont.)



It is left to the organization to determine what is “relevant”, and therefore what it is required to respond to from external communication.

Communication (cont.)



The standard raises the issue of communicating to external parties information on the significant environmental aspects of the organization. The standard then goes on to state that the organization must “record its decision” whether to communicate this information.

Communication (cont.)



The Communication Section of the standard should be read very carefully, and the organization's interactions with external parties evaluated carefully.